

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SY-05

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R 230554Z MAY 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 130429

FOR RCO

FOLLOWING REPEAT ROME 9304 ACTION SECSTATE DATED MAY QON QOUI  
MAY 19, 1978.

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 9304

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: MILAN SECURITY NEEDS AS VIOLENCE REACHES NEW HEIGHT

FOLLOWING IS REPEAT FOR YOUR INFO MILAN 0751 DATED MAY 17  
SENT ACTION ROME

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L MILAN 0751

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC, PINT, IT

SUBJECT: MILAN SECURITY NEEDS AS VIOLENCE REACHES NEW HEIGHTS

REF: A. STATE 121819, B. MILAN 0725, C. MILAN 0724,

D) MILAN 0732, E) '75 MILAN 2024, F. ROME 7112

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1. WEEK LONG SERIES OF TERRORIST ATTACKS IN MILAN ON  
TARGETS THAT HAVE FOR FIRST TIME INCLUDED TWO AMERICAN-  
OWNED COMPANIES HAS GREATLY HEIGHTENED OUR ALREADY  
SUBSTANTIAL CONCERN OVER SECURITY OF OUR STAFF, PARTICULARLY  
IN VIEW OF BRIGATE ROSSE SINGLING OUT OF MULTINATIONS (READ US  
FIRMS) IN COMMUNIQUE'S DURING MORO ORDEAL.

2. WE HAVE ALREADY MADE FOUR SPECIFIC REQUESTS TO EMBASSY AND DEPARTMENT FOR ADDITIONAL PROTECTIVE MEASURES (REFTELS). GIVEN DRAMATIC SERIES OF TERRORIST ATTACKS HERE THAT SHOW NO SIGNS OF ABATING AND WHICH HAVE INVOLVED BOTH CHEMICAL BANK AND HONEYWELL CONTROLS (REF C & D), WE HAVE CONVOKED POST SECURITY COMMITTEE AND THOROUGHLY REVIEWED ASSESSMENT OF PROBLEM AND MEANS TO MEET THREAT. MOREOVER, I HAVE CONFERRED WITH PREFECT MONDAY AND WITH COMMANDING GENERAL OF CARABINIERI TODAY. IN LIGHT OF THIS REVIEW, WE WISH TO RENEW APPEAL THAT OUR PROPOSALS BE GIVEN URGENT ATTENTION.

3. OUR MOST LONGSTANDING REQUEST IS FOR ITALIAN-MADE ARMORED VEHICLES TO REDUCE OUR VISIBILITY, INCREASE MANEUVERABILITY AND PROVIDE AS MUCH PROTECTION AS POSSIBLE AGAINST GUNFIRE. DEPARTMENT'S LATEST MESSAGE ON SUBJECT (REF A, RECEIVED HERE MAY 15) ASKS EMBASSY FOR ASSESSMENT OF OUR NEED. WE BELIEVE NEED IS MORE IMMEDIATE NOW THAN AT ANY TIME DURING MANY MONTHS SINCE OUR INITIAL REQUEST SUBMITTED.

4. ANOTHER LONGSTANDING REQUEST IS FOR TWO-WAY RADIO SYSTEM FOR OUR OFFICIAL VEHICLES (REF E) AND TO BE LOCATED IN HOMES OF AMERICAN EMPLOYEES. WE NOW HAVE NO MEANS OF COMMUNICATING WITH OUR VEHICLES TO WARN THEM IN CASE OF DANGER. FOR EXAMPLE, WHEN DEMONSTRATORS APPEARED MAY 9 AT TRADE CENTER ENTRANCE JUST BEFORE ARRIVAL OF AMBASSADOR TO OPEN TRADE CENTER

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SHOW, TC DIRECTOR HAD NO WAY TO ALERT AMBASSADOR FROM CERTAINLY EMBARRASSING AND POSSIBLY DANGEROUS SITUATION. NOR ARE PASSENGERS OR DRIVERS ABLE TO CALL CONSULATE IF UNEXPECTED HAPPENS. AND OUR OFFICERS CANNOT BE REACHED IN EMERGENCY IF TELEPHONES OUT OF SERVICE OR OVERLOADED AS IS FREQUENTLY CASE.

5. WE REALIZE THAT EMBASSY HAS IN PAST BEEN RELUCTANT TO AUTHORIZE TWO-WAY RADIO SYSTEM BECAUSE OF POTENTIAL ADVERSE IMPACT UPON ITS OWN NETWORK. HOWEVER, WE WOULD APPRECIATE QUESTION BEING EXAMINED ONCE MORE IN LIGHT OF HEIGHTENED THREAT HEREAND NEAR CERTAINTY THAT GOI COULD NOT REFUSE AUTHORIZATION FOR SUCH SYSTEMS AT CRITICAL MOMENT LIKE THIS.

6. THIRD REQUEST IS FOR GRILLS TO BLOCK TWO ELEVATORS WHICH WE DON NOT USE BUT WHICH CAN BE STOPPED IN SERVICE AREA ON CONSULATE FLOOR. POLICE INSPECTOR RECENTLY CALLED OUR ATTENTION TO THIS GAP IN OUR DEFENSES WHICH WE WOULD LIKE TO CLOSE.

7. OUR FOURTH REQUEST IS FOR PRIVATE GUARD FOR CONSULATE PREMISES (REF B). IN LIGHT OF EMBASSY'S 7112, JUST RECEIVED,

WE ARE RE-STUDYING PROPOSALS AND WILL REPLY SEPARATELY.

8. WE WISH NOW TO ADD FIFTH REQUEST - FOR BULLET PROOF VESTS FOR OUR DRIVERS AND ANY OTHER STAFF WHO WANT THEM. DRIVERS HAVE REQUESTED SUCH PROTECTION AND WE BELIEVE IT WISE FOR ANY OFFICERS WHO WOULD IN FACT WEAR SUCH PROTECTION AS WELL. SECOND CHANCE MODEL Y, TWO AND ONE HALF POUNDS, RECOMMENDED BY DEPT OF JUSTICE COSTS ABOUT \$65 EACH.

9. WE BELIEVE THAT RISK HERE TO CONSULATE OFFICERS HAS APPRECIABLY INCREASED HAVING IN MIND THAT TERRORISTS MAY SOON TURN TO US AS SOURCE OF THEIR HATED IMPERIALIST MULTINATIONALS AFTER HITTING JOURNALISTS, MANAGEMENT, DC OFFICIALS, JUDGES AND POLICE. OUR SUGGESTED PROTECTIVE CONFIDENTIAL

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MEASURES ATTEMPT TO MATCH LOCAL TECHNIQUES WHICH ARE HIT AND RUN SHOOTINGS, BOMBINGS AND KIDNAPPINGS RATHER THAN SEIZING AND HOLDING HOSTAGES OR OCCUPYING BUILDINGS AS IN OTHER COUNTRIES. WE CAN NEITHER GUARANTEE THAT THE VIOLENCE WILL CONTINUE NOR THAT THE MODUS OPERANDI WILL CONTINUE IN THIS PATTERN. BUT THAT IS OUR CONSIDERED BEST GUESS AT THE MOMENT.

10. ACTION REQUESTED: AUTHORIZATION TO IMPLEMENT SECURITY REQUESTS DESCRIBED ABOVE WITH EXCEPTION OF ITEM FOUR ON WHICH WE RESERVE FINAL JUDGMENT UNTIL WE HAVE GIVEN IT MORE CONSIDERATION. FINA UNQUOTE GARDNER UNQUOTE VANCE

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